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Borough of Colne



Annual Report

for 1954

of the

Medical Officer of Health

Borough



of Colne.

*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

*Health Department,
Bank House,
Colne, Lancs.*

Borough of Colne.

Health Committee.

Chairman:

Councillor T. C. Muir, D.S.C.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor T. Wright.

His Worship the Mayor

(Councillor J. E. Driver, J.P.)

Alderman A. Burrell, J.P.

„ W. Riddiough, J.P., C.C.

„ J. W. Shackleton.

„ G. E. Wilmore, J.P.

Councillor E. V. Doyle.

„ T. A. Fletcher.

„ N. Hopkinson.

„ R. F. Mitchell.

„ Mrs. C. Whittaker, J.P.

Town Clerk—L. A. Venables, Esq.

Borough of Colne.

Public Health Department.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector: Abattoir Superintendent.

S. CAYTON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.Inst.F. (*)
(Resigned 28/2/55)

Sanitary Inspector:

A. PEARSON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E. (†)
(Promoted to Chief Sanitary Inspector 1-3-55)

Clerical Staff:

Chief Clerk: J. PRESTON.

Clerks: A. WATSON (Resigned 10/4/54)
J. HARRISON.

QUALIFICATIONS.

- †* (a) R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board Certificate.
- †* (b) R.S.I. Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods
- †* (c) Diploma Nat. Fed. Meat Traders' Associations.
- †* (d) R.S.I. Certificate in Sanitary Science Applied to Buildings and Public Works.
- † (e) R.S.I. Certificate for Smoke Inspectors.
- * (f) R.S.I. Advanced Knowledge of Sanitary Inspectors' Duties.
- * (g) City and Guilds of London Institute Boiler House Practice Certificate.
- * (h) Testamur Institute of Public Cleansing.
- ! (i) Examination qualifying for Assoc. Membership, Institute of Sanitary Engineers.

PREFACE.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BANK HOUSE,
COLNE.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE,

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1954.

The number of infectious fevers notified in Colne showed a marked reduction on the figures for the previous year, but were slightly above the numbers for average periods. This was due to scarlet fever which fortunately was of a mild type. The Infantile Mortality Rate also improved on last year, but it is not nearly so good as for the rest of the country. In localities where the number of births is low, this is bound to happen occasionally.

As one problem is solved another becomes more urgent. At the present moment, the Death Rate exceeds the Birth Rate, and this has been the case for the last few years. This fact, and the migration of the young married couples, creates a situation economically unsound. There is an immediate need to attract new industries into the Town.

I am grateful to many of my colleagues for the information concerning their departments included in this report, and to the Members of the Health Committee and my staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. E. ROBINSON,

Medical Officer of Health.



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Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

The Borough of Colne is well situated, healthy, and in excellent natural surroundings. It is 600 ft. to 800 ft. above sea level. There is good natural drainage and a plentiful water supply.

The principal industries remain the same, viz:—Agriculture, Textiles, Engineering, Building and Civil Engineering, Leather Tanning and the Distributive Trades.

Employment prospects were generally good, though in the last Quarter of the year shortening of order books resulted in some uneasiness in the textile trade. Demands were for all classes of workers, skilled and unskilled, though demands for skilled textile and engineering workers tended to fall towards the end of the year. Vacancies which were difficult to fill for various reasons were for transport workers and unskilled factory workers, both men and women.

There were 39 men and 23 women on the unemployed register at the end of the year.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Area (in acres) ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5,939
Population .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	20,230
No. of inhabited houses end of 1954, according to Rate Book							7,282
Rateable value .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	£138,071
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	£543

RAINFALL

Rainfall was recorded by a Dines Tilting Syphon Rain Gauge which was installed at Judge Fields on the 12th September, 1947, and by a Bucket Rain Gauge (diameter of funnel: 5 inches) which was moved from the Cemetery to Judge Fields on the 1st October, 1947.

The height of the rain gauge site above sea level is 558.55 feet.

The top of the bucket gauge is 1 foot above ground level.

Site Position—Latitude $53^{\circ} 51' 41''$ N. Longitude $2^{\circ} 10' 40''$ W.

Inches.

Average Annual Rainfall 1901-1954	39.50
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SUMMARY OF RAINFALL FOR 1954.

Month.	Depth in Inches.	No. of days on which rain fell.	
			Monthly average 4.84 inches.
January	4.23	15	
February	3.01	23	
March	2.65	16	Heaviest rainfall for one month,
April	0.96	8	October, 8.82 inches.
May	3.18	16	
June	2.10	14	
July	5.69	21	Heaviest rainfall for one day,
August	7.86	25	20th January, 1.88 inches.
September	5.73	25	
October	8.82	27	
November	6.37	25	Lowest rainfall for one month,
December	7.44	26	April, 0.96 inches.
Total	58.04	241	

TEMPERATURE

Thermometer moved from Cemetery to Judge Fields, 1st October, 1947.

Highest Temperature, 1935-1954, 16th August, 1947 95°F.

Lowest Temperature, 1935-1954, 20th January, 1940 5°F.

Maximum Temperature, 1954, 1st September 78°F.

Minimum Temperature, 1954, 28th February 12°F.

This information has been supplied by the Borough Engineer.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS
FOR THE YEAR 1954.

		Birth Rate per thousand of the estimated resident population.		
		Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births	Legitimate	251	130	121
	Illegitimate	19	11	8
	Totals	270	141	129

† 13.3

				Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.		
				Total. Male. Female.		
Still Births ...	{	Legitimate	9	5	4	32
		Illegitimate	—	—	—	
		Totals	9	5	4	

						Death Rate per thousand of the estimated resident population.
Deaths	....	....	....	286	141	145 *14.1

† 1954 adjusted birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.08) = 14.4
per 1,000

* 1954 ,, death-rate (,, ,, 0.90) = 12.7
per 1,000

Maternal mortality:—

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ....	....	Nil
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	....	Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:—

				Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	....	....	....	9	5	4
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
Totals				9	5	4

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births ....	....	33
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ....	....	36
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ....	....	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:—

				Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	....	....	....	8	4	4
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
Totals				8	4	4

Neo-natal mortality:—

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age ....	....	8
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ....	....	30

COMPARATIVE TABLE

		Live Births		Deaths (All causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality	
		No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total	Neo-Natal
BOROUGH OF COLNE.											
Population 20,230											
Year 1951	...	270	113.3	286	* 14.1	9	32	Nil	Nil	9	33
Year 1953	...	282	13.9	307	15.1	7	24	Nil	Nil	12	43
" 1952	...	278	13.6	328	16.0	10	35	Nil	Nil	10	36
" 1951	...	287	14.0	346	16.9	6	20	Nil	Nil	8	28
" 1950	...	288	13.8	319	15.3	5	17	Nil	Nil	10	35
" 1949	...	306	14.7	315	15.1	10	32	1	3.16	9	29
Average 5 years—1949—1953.		—	14.0	—	15.7	—	26	—	0.63	—	34

† 1954 adjusted live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.08) — 14.4 per 1,000.
 * " " death-rate (" " 0.90) — 12.7 " "

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH, 1954.
(Registrar General's Official Returns, 1954.)

All Causes 286—Males 141, Females 145.

	Causes of Death.	Males	Females
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	1	—
3	Syphilitic disease	1	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—
5	Whooping cough	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8	Measles	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	3
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast... ..	1	3
13	Malignant, neoplasm, uterus	—	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms... ..	13	13
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	—
16	Diabetes	—	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	15	36
18	Coronary disease, angina	31	9
19	Hypertension with heart disease	2	4
20	Other heart disease	23	29
21	Other circulatory disease	5	10
22	Influenza	—	—
23	Pneumonia	5	4
24	Bronchitis	7	4
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhœa... ..	1	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—
29	Hypertrophy of prostate... ..	3	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	2	1
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases	12	9
33	Motor vehicle accidents... ..	—	2
34	All other accidents	—	8
35	Suicide	1	1
36	Homicide and operations of war... ..	—	—
		141	145

ENGLAND AND WALES.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY during the Year 1954.

(Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.)

	Birth-Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population.								Rate per 1,000 Live Births.		
	Live Births	Still- Births	All Causes.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Tuberculosis (All forms)	Influenza.	Smallpox.	Acute Polio- myelitis and polioencephalitis	Pneumonia.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (un- der 2 years).	Total Deaths (under 1 year)
COLNE	14.4	0.44	12.7	—	—	—	0.10	—	—	—	0.44	—	33
England and Wales ...	15.2	0.36	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.05	—	0.00	0.48	0.8	26
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	16.8	0.44	12.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.04	—	0.00	0.50	0.9	29
160 Smaller Towns (Resident population 25,000 — 50,000 at 1951 Census)	15.4	0.35	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.05	—	0.00	0.49	0.5	24
London Adm. County ...	17.7	0.35	11.7	0.00	0.00	—	0.19	0.02	—	0.00	0.49	0.4	23

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

	England and Wales	Colche
Maternal causes, excluding abortion	0.58	—
Due to abortion	0.11	—
Total maternal mortality	0.69	—

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULOSIS AND CANCER.

Rates per 1,000 population.

Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.18	0.10
Respiratory	0.16	0.05
Non-respiratory	0.02	0.05
Cancer (all forms)	2.04	2.47
Lung and bronchus	0.37	0.40
Other cancer	1.67	2.07

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

INFANT MORTALITY

1954. *Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of age.*

Compiled from the Official Registrations.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All Causes:—	7	1	—	—	8	—	—	1	—	9
Acute Meningo Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Duodenal Obstruction	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erythroblastosis Foetalis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Lobar Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Spina Bifida	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Sub Arachnoid Haemorrhage ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1

The Infant Mortality figure for 1954 is 33 per 1,000 live births. This is a decrease of 10 per 1,000 on the figure for 1953, and is 7 per 1,000 more than the rate for the country as a whole.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS.—The number of live births registered during the year was 270. Of these, 141 were males and 129 females. The birth rate per 1,000 of the population is 13.3 and is a decrease of 0.6 on the previous year, and is 0.7 less than the average for the past five years. The adjusted birth-rate is 14.4 per 1,000, the comparability factor being 1.08.

STILL BIRTHS.—The still-birth rate is 0.08 per thousand of the population above that of the country as a whole.

DEATHS.—The number of deaths registered was 286 of which 141 were males and 145 females. The death-rate is 14.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population, representing a decrease of 1.0 on the previous year. The adjusted death-rate is 12.7 per 1,000, the comparability factor being 0.90.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS AND DEATH

DURING THE YEAR 1954.

Heart diseases, diseases of the vessels and cancer were again the principal causes of death in Colne.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Particulars of the Health Department Staff are set out on page 2 of this report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out for Colne Corporation at the Central Pathological Laboratory at Salus Street (Victoria Hospital), Burnley. The undermentioned bacteriological examinations were undertaken during 1954:—

	No. Examined.	
Milk—Methylene Blue reduction test	12
Milk—Tuberculosis—biological tests	12
Total	<hr/> 24 <hr/>

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951, SECTION 47.

(Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention).

No action was found to be necessary under this section during the year.

HOSPITALS.

The Hospital Services for the Borough are provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee of the North-West Regional Hospital Board, and action is taken by them to secure adequate hospital treatment for the varying needs of the people.

The general hospitals in Burnley and district available to Colne residents are:—

- Hartley Hospital, Colne.
- Reedyford Memorial Hospital, Nelson.
- General Hospital, Burnley.
- Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

There is also Grove House Recovery Home, Barrowford, and cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Marsden Hospital, Burnley.

The following Maternity Hospitals are also available:—

- Christiana Hartley Maternity Home, Colne.
- Fern Lea Maternity Home, Nelson.
- Bank Hall Maternity Hospital, Burnley.

THE CHRISTIANA HARTLEY MATERNITY HOME.

The Christiana Hartley Maternity Home and Ante-Natal Clinic in Barrowford Road, serves the Borough of Colne and the neighbouring districts.

The accommodation available consists of 14 maternity beds and 2 isolation beds. The maternity block contains 2 labour wards, sterilisation room, nursery and duty room. There is also an ante-natal clinic, observation block, kitchen and laundry.

The accommodation at the Home has been very fully occupied. It appears, from the number of applicants refused admission to fall short of the actual need.

Experience has shown the need for additional single rooms for the proper nursing of special types of cases, e.g., difficult labours, post eclampsia, heart conditions, caesarean section and premature births, and particularly for the provision of ante-natal beds.

PREMATURE INFANTS.

Premature infants are retained in the Maternity Home until their progress is equal to that of a child born at full term pregnancy. Thereafter bi-weekly visits are made by the Health Visitors.

Premature babies born at home are admitted to the Maternity Home or hospital if the home conditions are unsuitable. The midwife has access to special equipment maintained at the Divisional Health Offices for premature babies, should it be necessary.

THE ANTE-NATAL CLINIC, CHRISTIANA HARTLEY MATERNITY HOME.

Sessions are held bi-weekly on Wednesday and Friday afternoons for patients seeking admission to the Home. In addition, sessions are held on Monday afternoons by the County Midwives.

The Clinic is situated to the East of the main building of the Home, from which it is entirely separate. The accommodation consists of a waiting room and sanitary accommodation, dressing cubicles, laboratory and two consulting rooms.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CARE.

Expectant mothers are urged to attend the Ante-Natal Clinics and to take full advantage of the facilities they offer.

Mothers are strongly advised to have at least one post-natal examination approximately six weeks after the baby is born. A great deal of unnecessary discomfort and ill-health is borne by sensitive women who have a mistaken belief that such suffering is an inevitable accompaniment of childbirth.

I again repeat the need for emphasis on the value of post-natal examinations. At the present time, too great a difference exists between the number of ante-natal and post-natal examinations.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths in the Borough during the year.

TABLE SHOWING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS
AND STILL BIRTHS, AND THE TOTAL NUMBER
OF MATERNAL DEATHS FOR THE LAST TEN
YEARS.

Year	Totals including County cases and other Areas.		Borough of Colne Only	
	No. of Births	No. of Maternal Deaths	No. of Births	No. of Maternal Deaths
1945	499	2	288	1
1946	672	—	371	—
1947	741	—	422	—
1948	657	1	357	1
1949	602	1	316	—
1950	396	—	278	—
1951	397	—	278	—
1952	367	—	259	—
1953	369	—	262	—
1954	380	—	251	—

CHEST CLINIC.

The Chest Clinic is now conducted at the Marsden Hospital, Burnley.

The number of Colne patients on the register at December 31st was 106, viz:—

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Males	41	12
Females	45	8
Total	86	20

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS.

This service is also provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee and separate clinics are held twice a week for both male and female patients at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley, as follows:—

Males	....	Tuesday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
		Friday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Females	....	Tuesday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
		Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

OTHER SERVICES.

The Lancashire County Council provide and maintain the following services which are administered from the Divisional Health Offices, Reedley, near Burnley.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Ambulance and sitting case cars are provided and, where long distances are involved, arrangements may be made for conveyance by train.

All the drivers and attendants have completed the County Council Training Programme. Resuscitation apparatus, and other essential equipment, is carried in all ambulances.

CONVALESCENT HOME CARE.

Arrangements are made by the County Council for the convalescent care of persons recovering from illness who are no longer in need of medical treatment.

CHILD WELFARE.

There are two Health Visitors appointed by the County Council visiting mothers and children in the Colne area.

The accommodation at the Welfare Clinic, Bank House, consists of one consulting room, two dressing and weighing rooms, a kitchen and a large waiting room.

SCHOOL HEALTH.

Regular examinations are made in schools by the County staff and advice given at the various clinics held for school children.

CLINICS.

The following clinics are held for Colne children.

Clinic	Where held	Day and time
Artificial Sunlight	Bank House	Monday, Wednesday and Friday — 9 to 10 a.m.
Child Welfare	Bank House	Wednesday — 10 a.m. to 12 noon and * 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday — 2 to 4 p.m. (* <i>Doctor in attendance</i>).
Dental	Bank House	Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday — 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1-30 to 4 p.m.
Immunisation	Bank House	Wednesday — 2-30 to 3-30 p.m.
Lip Reading	Bank House	By Appointment.
Minor Ailment	Bank House	Daily — 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
Ophthalmic	Bank House	Friday — p.m.
Orthopaedic	School Clinic, Carr Road, Nelson	Third Friday each month — p.m.
Orthoptic	Bank House	Third Monday each month — p.m.
Vaccination	Bank House	By Appointment.

SALE OF BABY FOODS.

Baby foods are sold at Bank House at the following times:—

Foods other than National Dried Milk, Monday, Wednesday and
Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice Thursday 4 to 5 p.m.

Mothers attending with children may purchase these foods during the hours the Child Welfare Centre is open.

National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil and Wednesday 9 a.m. to
Orange Juice (since June) 12 noon.
2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday 2 to 5 p.m.

DAY NURSERIES.

There are two Day Nurseries under the administration of the County Council.

The one at North Valley Road accommodates 76 children, and that at Haverholt 49 children.

Newtown Nursery School, which is under the control of the Education Authority, accommodates 40 children.

These nurseries have been fully occupied during the year.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

(Under Part VII of the Public Health Act, 1936).

The welfare of children has long been the concern and interest of this local authority and, in spite of the powers to act being transferred to the County Council, the interest is always present.

Information of cases of neglect or cruelty, or both, reaches the Department through very many channels. These are usually School Nurses, Health Visitors, Teachers, Attendance Officers, and on many occasions through neighbours. All rumours or reports are investigated. Warnings are issued if necessary and close watch is kept on the case or cases. If all this fails to produce the desired effect, the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector is communicated with, and he visits the house. Usually, this has a salutary effect. In all cases where warnings have been issued or there has been a suspicion of neglect, close supervision is maintained.

CHILDREN'S ACT, 1948.

By the provision of this Act, certain classes of children come under the care of the Children's Department of the County Council. The Department is responsible for children who are for one reason or another deprived of the normal care of their parents.

The children are cared for in children's homes, residential nurseries, hostels and foster homes.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS AND HOMELESS INFANTS.

Unmarried mothers and children are catered for in Mother and Baby Homes administered by Voluntary Moral Welfare Organisations, who work in close co-operation with the County Council.

MENTAL HEALTH.

A Duly Authorised Officer and a Lady Mental Health Visitor are available for dealing with mentally sick and mentally defective persons, and information and advice can be obtained from the Divisional Health Office.

HOME NURSING.

Four district nurses of the Divisional Health Staff are assigned to the Borough for this service. Three are females and one male.

MIDWIFERY.

There are three midwives, appointed by the County Council, practising in the Borough.

HOME HELP.

Enquiries for home help are referred to the Home Help Supervisor. This service now includes a scheme of night and evening help.

List of Local Acts, Special Local Orders, General Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws in force in the District.

- Colne and Marsden Local Board Act, 1881.
 Colne Corporation Act, 1897.
 Colne Corporation Act, 1905.
 Colne Corporation Act, 1921.
 Colne Corporation Act, 1933.
 Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.
 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. (Except Sections 16 to 27, 32, 33, 36 and 47 repealed by P.H.A. 1936).
 Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890. (Except Sections 5 to 15 and 17 repealed by P.H.A. 1936).
 Local Government Boards Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 14) Act, 1903.
 Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (Sections 17, 22, 81, 85, 86 and 94).
 Public Health Act, 1925, Part 2 (Except Section 20 repealed by P.H.A. 1936).
 Housing of the Rural Workers Scheme approved by the Minister of Health, 12th February, 1929, as amended by Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1942.
 Borough of Colne (Offensive Trades) Confirmation Order, 1932.
 The Colne (Fish and Greengrocery Shops) Weekly Half-day Holiday Order, 1946.
 Stationers' and Booksellers' Exception Order, 1913.
 Closing Order for Butchers' Shops, 1921.
 The Colne (Fried Fish and Chip Shops) Weekly Half Holiday Order, 1939.
 The Colne (Food) Order, 1950

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS:—

- New Streets, 1925.
 Bye-laws with respect to Common Lodging Houses, 1908.
 " " " Private Slaughterhouses, 1908.
 Public Slaughterhouse Bye-laws, 1933.
 " " (Regulations), 1932.
 Bye-laws with respect to Offensive Trades, 1934.
 " " " Fouling of Footways by Dogs, 1936.
 Building Bye-laws, 1939.
 Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, 1950.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

The incidence of infectious diseases during the year was slightly above normal for the town, but much less than last year, 271 cases in all being notified. Of these 100 were Whooping Cough, 85 Measles and 59 Scarlet Fever. Scarlet Fever was most prevalent during Spring and Summer, and Measles and Whooping Cough during the last six months of the year. One death occurred from Respiratory Tuberculosis and one from Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis. There were 9 deaths due to Pneumonia.

SMALLPOX.—The vaccinated population in Colne is far too low. It invites a serious state of affairs should an epidemic break out. I strongly recommend parents to have their babies vaccinated as early as possible after birth.

IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

DIPHTHERIA.—Clinics for active immunisation against Diphtheria are held at the School Clinic at Bank House.

Diphtheria Toxoid Alum Precipitated is the prophylactic used.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1954.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.											Total Deaths
	Total cases at all ages.	AGE PERIODS—YEARS.										
		0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45	65 and over	Age un- known	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.....	59	—	3	16	34	4	—	1	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria (includ- ing membranous croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding Rubella)	85	2	15	28	39	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	100	14	26	25	32	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Infl- uenzal)	9	—	1	1	2	—	—	1	1	3	—	9
Puerperal Pyrexia..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal In- fection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	4	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neo- natorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria—Contract- ed—In England and Wales.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abroad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis— Respiratory	11	—	—	1	—	1	1	5	3	—	—	1
Meninges and C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1
Totals	271	16	46	71	109	9	3	9	5	3	—	11

TUBERCULOSIS

It has not been found necessary to enforce the provisions of the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, with reference to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, employed in the milk trade.

New cases and mortality during 1954.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 years.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 „ .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 „	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 „ .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 „ .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 „ .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 „ .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 „	1	3	1	1	...	...	1	...
35 „	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 „	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 „	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 „ .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
75 and upwards..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	6	5	1	1	...	1	1	...
	11		2		1		1	

The notification of Tuberculosis is reasonably efficient.

There were no non-notified Tuberculosis deaths.

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. For the Year Ended 31st December, 1954.

Dr. R. E. Robinson,
Medical Officer of Health,
Borough of Colne.

Dear Sir,

This report should have been introduced by Mr. Stanley Cayton, who terminated his appointment as Chief Sanitary Inspector on the 28th February, 1955, upon obtaining the position of Chief Sanitary Inspector to the County Borough of West Bromwich. It will be realised, therefore, that the work outlined in this report was carried out under his direction. Having worked with him for the last six years, I can truthfully say that he provided a stimulation to the work of the Department and has left his mark on the town.

SLAUGHTERING AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The major impact on the Department during the year was the reintroduction of private slaughtering and the change over at the Public Abattoir in July from use by the Ministry of Food to use by local butchers.

At the Abattoir, the line system of dressing carcasses precluded a return to the pre-war method of slaughter by individual butchers. The butchers themselves came forward with the solution to the problem by forming a wholesale company, employing a team of slaughtermen and other labourers and, on terms acceptable to the Corporation, agreeing to slaughter animals for private butchers additional to those they slaughtered for themselves. By the year end, arrangements had been agreed for the provision of an overhead weighing scale and a large refrigerator on the premises.

Two private slaughterhouses were re-opened in the Town and improvements made to the buildings to bring them up to more modern standards.

Meat inspection prior to decontrol, during the peak months of August to November, occupied one inspector for 24 hours each week, whilst slaughtering took place over a period of 45 hours or more, and the equivalent of 320 cattle per week were inspected. Since decontrol, over the same peak months, two inspectors have been occupied for a total of 30 hours each week (involving three hours overtime). The times of slaughtering at the three premises overlap but if taken separately would add up to 86 hours and the equivalent of 264 cattle per week were inspected.

It will be seen that more time has been given to Meat Inspection duties since decontrol, and that far less animals are being slaughtered. Quite obviously one of the main advantages of slaughtering concentrated at an abattoir is the saving of man power on Meat Inspection. In addition there is the better supervision given by the meat inspector to aspects of cruelty to animals and the hygiene of preparing meat, in addition to his closer control of disease recognition.

FOUL AIR.

Smoke Observations on Factory Chimneys have been taken regularly in the Town since 1900. In 1911 it is recorded that 5 prosecutions were taken against offenders who exceeded the time limit for emission of black smoke set by the Health Committee. The limit was of five minutes in the hour for a plant with one boiler, six minutes for two boilers and ten minutes for four boilers or more. In that year, 71 smoke observations were taken and excessive quantities of black smoke were emitted in 48 instances.

This year, of the 136 smoke observations taken, 7 exceeded the limit of two minutes of black smoke in a period of 30 minutes observation. Progress, certainly. Satisfaction, very little.

The Committee on Air Pollution in their Report of 1954 state "We are satisfied that with few exceptions, no industrial chimney need normally emit more than a light haze of smoke if the combustion arrangements are adequate and are properly operated. We recommend therefore that, subject to the necessary exceptions, new legislation should prohibit the emission of dark smoke from any chimney. There are a large number of premises which are not at present equipped with efficient plant. For these, a reasonable time must be allowed for the necessary modifications and improvements."

Only three or four factories in Colne are able to operate without turning out dark smoke during some part of the day. We shall expect the others to recondition their boiler plants, install instruments for the proper checking of combustion conditions and employ skilled men for boiler work.

The time seems appropriate for the formation of a Smoke Abatement Council in the Town consisting of factory management, members of the Town Council, trade union representatives and representatives from the Coal, Gas and Electricity Boards. Such a Council could provide a discussion group at which these problems and the larger problems of domestic smoke pollution and the creation of smoke control areas in the Town could be given an airing.

HOUSING.

The year has seen a start being made on the clearance of insanitary dwellings in the Town. Two Clearance Areas were represented and the Clearance Orders confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The Council have since decided on a programme for clearing the remaining insanitary houses in the Town. This is likely to take 15 years or more and will involve about 700 houses.

The following reports and tables cover the work of the Department during the year, and are given separate comments.

I am,

Sir,

Yours most sincerely,

A. PEARSON,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Circumstances.

WATER SUPPLY.

TOWN'S WATER:

The town's water is obtained from a catchment area of 780 acres near at hand on Emmott Moor and feeds the Laneshaw Reservoir which has a capacity of 75 million gallons.

The reservoir is well situated, 858 feet above Ordnance Datum.

Corn Close Borehole, with pumping plant, was completed in 1937. The capacity of the borehole is 40,000 gallons per hour.

The supply is adequate and of excellent quality, giving satisfactory bacteriological and chemical analyses.

The following examinations were made during the year:—

(a) Raw Water	....	....	Bacteriological Examinations	6
			Chemical Analyses	.... 3
(b) Water going into supply, where treatment is installed	....		Bacteriological Examinations	58
			Chemical Analyses	.... 13

Chlorination plant installed in the Laneshaw Filter House, during 1942, treats both the low level and high level supplies.

Filtration is carried out by Bell and Candy mechanical pressure filters.

Thirteen samples have been analysed for plumbo-solvency, and the analyst states that plumbo-solvent action is negligible.

Mains extensions to new housing sites have been laid. Reservicing work under an assisted scheme has given improved supplies to numerous older houses in various parts of the town.

The water in the outlet main from the open-service reservoir at Bents is now re-chlorinated.

Number of houses, including business premises, with piped supplies:—

Direct from mains	....	....	....	8,120
Metered Supplies (Business premises)	....	....	....	270

There are no supplies by means of standpipe.

TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT HARDNESS OF WATER FOR COLNE, 1954.

			Parts per 100,000
High Level—Temporary—Removable by boiling	....	....	7.0
„ „ —Permanent—After boiling	....	....	2.7
		Total	9.7
Low Level—Temporary—Removable by boiling	....	....	3.2
„ „ —Permanent—After boiling	....	....	4.0
		Total	7.2

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

There are approximately 40 miles of sewers within the area.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The arrangements for sewage disposal are concentrated at the Sewage Purification Works in Burnley Road. Proposals are being considered for the rebuilding of these works.

In order to reduce the surcharging of the main sewers during rain, the practice of providing separate drainage for Council housing development and of requiring private developers to make this provision wherever possible, has continued.

A scheme has been prepared for a new surface water sewer at Laneshaw Bridge. This will allow the surface water from the new housing scheme at Sheridan Road to discharge into the river, so relieving the main foul sewer. It is hoped that Ministry approval will be shortly granted for this work to be carried out.

Sewer extensions have been carried out to 52 new houses.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Lancashire Rivers Board is responsible for the supervision and protection of the rivers and streams in the area and, where necessary their attention is directed to cases of river pollution. No cases have been reported during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There were 69 pail closets and 41 tanks or privies still in use in the area at the end of the year. In most of these cases there is an adequate supply of water, but no sewer available. Conversions to

the water carriage system would necessitate the provision of a septic tank and filter, but due care should be taken before installations are carried out, to ensure that land and ditches are not fouled by the effluents.

The conversion of 101 waste-water closets into fresh water closets has been carried out during the year under review. The Corporation grant of £5 per conversion was made in each instance.

At the end of the year there were still approximately 2,962 waste-water closets within the Borough. Their conversion is the greatest outstanding sanitary improvement.

Conversions and additions in 1954:—

Waste W.Cs to fresh W.Cs	....	....	101
Waste W.Cs abolished	....	....	2
Tank Closets to fresh W.Cs	....	....	—
Pail Closets to fresh W.Cs	....	....	—
Pail Closets abolished	....	....	—
Additional fresh W.Cs provided	....	....	83
Water Closets abolished	....	....	1

Various types existing at the end of 1954.

		F.W.Cs	W.W.Cs	Tanks	Pails
Dwellinghouses	....	4890	2937	39	69
Factories, Offices and Lock-up Shops	....	902	13	—	—
Sunday Schools and Institutions	....	138	2	2	—
Day Schools	....	141	—	—	—
Public Buildings, Offices, etc.	....	142	10	—	—
Totals	....	6213	2962	41	69

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse is collected from approximately 7,585 bins at houses and other buildings, and is transported in four Karrier Bantam refuse collection vehicles.

Refuse disposal is mainly by controlled tipping at Bunkers Hill and Whitewalls Tips. Objectionable material is burnt at the Refuse Destructor in a four-cell furnace of the top-feed type.

A Salvage Scheme has been in operation since 1940, and up to the end of March, 1955, 7,790 tons of material at a value of £32,794 had been recovered and sold.

Kitchen waste is sold raw and is heat-treated by the customer before being used as animal food.

Street cleansing is carried out by a Karrier Motor Sweeper and collectors, working on the "beat" system with "Orderly" trucks.

Gullies are emptied by a Karrier "Yorkshire" Gully Emptyer. Septic tanks are emptied at owners' request and cost, by the same means. There are no cesspools to be cleansed as a rate borne charge.

Pail closets are emptied by the Corporation at owners' request.

This Service is administered by the Borough Engineer to whom I am indebted for most of this information.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

The following is a summary of the 3,219 inspections made during the year:—

Houses re defects (complaints, etc.)	...	...	684
„ let-in-lodgings	....	....	3
„ re Infectious Disease	....	....	53
„ re dirty/verminous conditions	....	....	28
„ inspected under Housing Acts	....	....	156
„ „ re overcrowding	....	....	4
„ re Corporation House tenancies	....	....	65
Tents, Vans and Sheds	....	....	3
Drains inspected and/or tested	....	....	395
Sewers inspected and/or tested	....	....	4
Factories with Power	....	....	54
Factories without Power	....	....	7
Workplaces (Offices)	....	....	4
Outworkers Premises	....	....	1
Smoke Observations	....	....	136
Visits to premises re smoke emissions, etc.	....	....	47
Inspection of Factory Boiler Plants	....	....	2
Dairies, Milkshops and Milk Vehicles	....	....	38
Bakehouses	....	....	48
Ice Cream Premises	....	....	9
Fried Fish Shops	....	....	11
Cafe and Canteen Premises	....	....	26
Warehouses	....	....	9
Food Shops—Butchers	....	....	48
„ „ —Grocers	....	....	36
„ „ —Greengrocers	....	....	18
„ „ —Confectioners	....	....	35
„ „ —Others	....	....	7
Premises re making-up of Meat Products	....	....	19
Visits to Public Abattoir	....	....	633

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	54	7	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	157	54	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers' premises)... ..	—	—	—	—
Total	211	61	1	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ...	—	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	5	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relat- ing to Outwork)	—	1	—	—	—
Total	1	9	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel making, etc.	17	—	—	—	—	—

RODENT CONTROL.

Forty inspections were made to alleged rat infested premises by sanitary inspectors. The technique advised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is carried out in all cases of infestation.

During the year 908 visits were made by the rodent operative to 155 infested premises. In several instances the premises were treated on more than one occasion during the year, the total number of actual treatments being 161. Thirty-four "block" control schemes were carried out.

The entire sewer system of the town is treated twice yearly for the destruction of rats living therein. Experience shows that most infestations are associated with defective sewers or drains. Consequently, the poisoning of rats in sewers, though limited by the fact that baiting is only practicable at the manholes, materially reduces the number of rats on the surface. The results of these sewer treatments reveal a decrease in the rat population compared with earlier years.

No legal action was taken and no notices were served under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Three visits were made during the year to this type of dwelling. No action was necessary.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no registered common lodging houses within the Borough.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The offensive trades carried out in Colne are:—

Tanners 3; Leather Dressers 4.

These businesses have been carried on without complaint during the year.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Shop and office workers number about eighty per cent of all employed persons, other than those engaged in industrial or domestic work. The Public Health Act, 1936, and the Shops Acts are deliberately framed to promote the health and well-being of this group of workers, but, although a total of 173 inspections were made to shops, and 4 to offices, there is still a vast amount of inspectorial work to be done in the matter of temperature, lighting and ventilation, sanitary accommodation and hours of employment in shops. The number of offices is virtually unknown.

Four informal notices were served, these being in respect of the display of notices under the provisions of the Shops Acts.

SHOPS ACT, 1950, SECTION 38 (2) and (6).

A Certificate of Exemption was granted in respect of a lock-up shop, exempting the occupier from the provision of additional and separate sanitary accommodation.

CLOSING OF SHOPS.—Thirty-seven inspections were made after closing hours, and 8 on Sundays. The regulations were generally being observed.

ANALYSIS OF SHOPS WITHIN THE BOROUGH.

Arts and Crafts	1	Dry Cleaners	4
Brushmaker	1	Fancy Goods	1
Butchers	36	Fish Friers	18
Builders' Merchants and		Florists	4
Fire-range Dealers	3	French Polishers	1
Cabinet Makers and		Funeral Service	1
Upholsterers	5	Furnishers (House)	9
Chemists	9	Gas Appliances	1
Cloggers and Boot and		Garages	15
Shoe Repairs and Sales	24	General Store	1
Confectioners, Cafes	33	Glass and China Ware	2
Cycle & Motor Cycle Dealers	1	Greengrocers	21
		Grocers and Mixed	119

Hairdressers (Ladies)	12	Toys	2
„ (Men)	13	Tripe Sellers	1
Herbalists	1	Wardrobe Dealers	3
Ironmongers and		Wine and Spirit Merchants ...	2
Hardware	6	Wireless and Electrical	
Jewellers and Opticians	3	Equipment	12
Ladies' and Children's			<hr/>
Wear and Drapery	30		498
Leather and Grindery	1		
Lending Library	1		
Music Dealer	2	Vacant Shops	36
Needlecraft and Knitting			<hr/>
Wools	2		534
Newsagents and Booksellers	25		<hr/>
Painters and Decorators	16	Market Hall:	
Pet Shops and Aquaria	4	Shops	17
Photographers	2	Stalls	76
Picture Framers	3	Cafes	3
Plumbers	13	Vacant	—
Printers	6		<hr/>
Sports Outfitters	1		96
Sweets	12		<hr/>
Tailors and Outfitters	12		
Tobacconists	3	Grand Total	630

Licences were granted to the proprietors of four Pet Shops, under the provisions of the Pet Animals Act, 1951.

CAMPING SITES

No applications were received for the use of sites in the area for camping purposes, but licences were issued in respect of one individual caravan. One licence previously issued under the Colne Corporation Act, 1933, S.96, was not renewed.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

One hundred and thirty-six smoke observations were made and in seven instances it was found necessary to report the existence of a smoke nuisance to the management of the firms concerned. Evening Classes in Boiler House Practice were again conducted at Colne Technical School, and have been attended by engineers and stokers. Visits of inspection to boiler plants in the district have been made in conjunction with these classes. Mr. A. Pearson has conducted the theoretical training and arranged the visits.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

An Atmospheric Deposit Gauge is installed on a site at the rear of the Public Library. The results of analyses of the monthly deposits are indicated below.

MONTH	WATER inches rain	Tons per sq. mile		
		TOTAL WATER Insoluble Matter	TOTAL WATER Soluble Matter	TOTAL SOLIDS
January	3.35	4.34	9.51	13.85
February	2.29	5.96	7.05	13.01
March	2.36	6.37	4.93	11.30
April	0.75	5.03	4.18	9.21
May	3.03	6.87	5.51	12.38
June	1.81	3.84	3.53	7.37
July	5.20	4.41	4.86	9.27
August	6.07	3.73	5.47	9.20
September	4.88	4.45	9.82	14.27
October	7.29	4.92	8.52	13.44
November	5.55	4.45	7.90	12.35
December	5.00	3.59	11.97	15.56
Total—for 12 months	47.58	57.96	83.25	141.21
Monthly Average	3.96	4.83	6.94	11.77

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public. The Corporation owns Public Baths and Swimming Pools, which were opened in 1909.

They consist of the following:—

An adult swimming pool, children's swimming pool, shower and foot baths, with dressing cubicles, sanitary accommodation, and seats for spectators. There is also a series of medicated baths.

The water is frequently tested by the Baths Department to ensure satisfactory conditions.

DISINFESTATION.

Disinfestation is here taken to include all insects and parasites.

Private houses are inspected and disinfested upon complaint of infestation from the owner or occupier, and spraying and/or dusting is carried out according to circumstances.

The following treatments were carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors:—

Type of Premises	No. of Premises	No. of treatments carried out	Insecticide Used:—		
			D.D.T. Preparations	'Gammexane' Emulsion	'Gammexane' Smoke Generators
Council Houses ...	4	5	4	—	1
Other Houses... ..	12	14	8	4	2
Bakehouses	1	2	2	—	—
Cafes and Restaurant Kitchens	1	2	1	1	—
Schools	3	6	4	2	—
Other Premises ...	7	8	2	6	—
Total	28	37	21	13	3

CORPORATION HOUSES—INCOMING TENANTS.

Personal effects and premises of prospective Corporation tenants are inspected for vermin, and treatment arranged as may be found necessary. The following is a record of the work done in this respect:—

Houses and effects inspected for vermin	....	....	....	65
Houses where vermin found	....	....	....	—
Disinfestation treatment carried out by this department	....	....	....	—

SCHOOLS.

There are 15 County Schools and 1 private School within the Borough.

Eighteen inspections were made during the year. Generally, sanitary and washing facilities leave much to be desired. Additions to the already insufficient washing facilities, including hot water, are essential for the increasing number of scholars taking meals at school, and for reasonable standards of personal hygiene to be practised.

Obsolete sanitary accommodation at Christ Church School has been abolished and a new building constructed in which modern facilities are provided.

LETHAL CHAMBER.

A lethal chamber is provided at Bank House, where injured or unwanted dogs and cats can be painlessly destroyed by electrical apparatus which has the full approval of the R.S.P.C.A. This service is available during normal office hours, on payment of one shilling for each animal. The following animals have been destroyed during the year:—

Dogs	....	....	....	....	....	145
Cats	....	....	....	....	....	170
Rabbits	....	....	....	....	....	1
Total						<hr/> 316 <hr/>

MORTUARY

Arrangements are made in collaboration with the police for cleaning and such attention as may be required.

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year:— Houses Flats

(a) Total including numbers given separately under (b)	55	12
(i) By the Local Authority	40	12
(ii) By other Local Authorities	—	—
(iii) By other bodies and persons	15	—
(b) With state assistance under the Housing Act:—		
(i) By the Local Authority	52	—
(ii) By other bodies or persons	—	—

Total Number of New Houses built by the Local Authority under Various Acts, to the end of 1954.

(1) Housing Act 1919	56
(2) Housing Act 1924	442
(3) Housing Act 1925, Part III	132
(4) Housing Act 1930	390
(5) Housing Act 1936	302
	1322

1. *Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	343
(b) The number of inspections made for the purpose	893
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	30
(b) The number of inspections made for the purpose	78
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation....	26
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	190

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—*

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	126
---	-----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—*

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By Owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—*

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	64
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	56
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	8

* Refers only to Housing defects.

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
(3) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which undertakings "not to occupy" were accepted by the local authority	—

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses, separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(2) Number of Closing Orders which were determined, the premises having been rendered fit	—

(e) Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of Clearance Areas represented	2
(2) Number of houses concerned in (1)	48
(3) Number of areas cleared	—
(4) Number of houses concerned in (3)	—
(5) Number of residents displaced in (3) and (4)	—
(6) Number of houses built by local authority to re-house residents displaced under Clearance Orders	—

4. *Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding:—*

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	4
(Exact number unknown)	
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	6
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	26½
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	3
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	2
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	11

5 *Housing Acts, 1949-54—Improvement Grants, etc.:—*

	Schemes of private bodies or individuals.	Schemes of local authority.
(a) (i) Number of Schemes submitted:		
(a) by private individuals to local authority.	18	—
(b) by local authority to Ministry.	—	—
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses or other buildings affected.	18	—
(b) (i) Number of Schemes finally approved.	12	—
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses or other buildings affected.	12	—
(iii) Number of additional separate dwellings to be provided under these approved Schemes.	—	—
(c) Number of additional separate dwellings actually completed during the year.	—	—

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The number of houses in the borough at the end of the year was 7,416, of which 134 were empty. The prevalent type are stone built terrace houses of good construction, average age about 50 years. Most of them have two bedrooms and are without modern amenities. The provision of a bath, wash basin and water closet takes up bedroom space which is only possible where there is a small

family, and this may be a limiting factor to their modernisation. The estimated number of sub-standard houses is at least 750, and approximately half of them need dealing with as soon as possible under the slum clearance programme. Two Areas have been represented to the Ministry for clearance, and confirmed by them. These involve 48 houses.

Number of applicants for Corporation flats	....	....	151
" " " Corporation bungalows	....	....	151
" " " Corporation houses	....	....	295
Total number of applicants for housing accommodation	....		597
No. of applicants at present sharing houses with other families			96

Particulars of Housing Schemes in hand or contemplated:—

In hand:—Wilmore Close (off Parker Street)—16 bungalows.
 Sheridan Road and Kingsley Road—6 houses and flats.
 Church Meadows—36 flats.

Advance preparation of road and sewer works at Lob
 Common site for approximately 400 dwellings.

Contemplated:—During the coming year it is expected that building will commence on the Lob Common site.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

ANALYSIS OF FOOD PREMISES WITHIN THE BOROUGH

Type of Business	No. of Premises
General Grocers and Provision Dealers	124
Greengrocers and Fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	22
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.)	41
Bakers and/or Confectioners	35
Fried Fish Shops	18
Shops selling mainly Sugar Confectionery, Minerals, Ice Cream, etc.	17
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Canteens, Restaurants, Cafes, Snack Bars, etc.	66
Others	17
TOTAL	340

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938—50, SECTION 14. REGISTERED PREMISES.

Type of Business	No. registered	No. of inspections during year
Fish Fryers	18	11
Ice Cream (Manufacture)	4	4
" " (Storage and Sale)	39	5
Meat Pie Makers	36	48
Preparation and Manufacture of Meat Products	39	19
TOTALS	136	87

In most cases the premises and equipment, and methods of handling and preparing food were found to be satisfactory. The importance of strict cleanliness in the handling of food is stressed to all food dealers. Improvements were carried out where necessary, and advice given.

MILK SUPPLY.

Thirty-eight inspections were made of the milkshops and dairies within the Borough, including milk vehicles.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 TO 1954.

No. of registered distributors operating from:—

(a) Dairies in the district	....	....	....	20
(b) Dairy farms in the district	....	....	....	2
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies	....	....	....	54
(d) Premises outside the district	....	....	....	4

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 TO 1954:

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1954 in respect of:—

(a) " Tuberculin Tested " Milk (Distribution)	....	....	26
(b) " Accredited " Milk	....	....	2

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 TO 1953:

No. of licences issued in respect of " heat treated " milk:—

Pasteurising plants	....	....	....	Nil
Sterilising plants	....	....	....	Nil

Retail distributors:—

(a) " Pasteurised "	....	18
(b) " Sterilised "	....	52

No refusal or revocation of licences for graded milk was necessary during the year.

SAMPLING:

(a) RAW MILK.

(i) Tuberculosis—biological tests:—

No. of samples	....	....	....	12
No. negative	....	....	....	12
No. positive	....	....	....	Nil

(ii) Methylene Blue reduction test:—

No. of samples	....	....	....	12
No. satisfactory	....	....	....	10
No. unsatisfactory	....	....	....	2

(b) " HEAT TREATED " MILK.

(i) Tuberculosis:—

No. of samples	Nil
----------------	------	------	------	-----

“ PASTEURISED.”

(ii) Phosphatase test:—

No. of samples	...	....	....	2
No. satisfactory	....	...	....	2
No. unsatisfactory	Nil

(iii) Methylene Blue reduction test:—

No. of samples	Nil
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“ STERILISED.”

(iv) Turbidity test:—

No. of samples	3
No. satisfactory	3
No. unsatisfactory	Nil

No action was necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-53.

ICE CREAM.

There are 4 manufacturers in the Borough. These are small traders supplying their own needs for retail purposes. There are also 39 registered retailers, all selling pre-packed ice cream, and 2 vans from neighbouring districts.

Nine inspections made during the year revealed satisfactory conditions. Six informal samples were taken for quality, one being deficient of non fatty milk solids. The manufacturer was cautioned.

SNACK BARS, CAFES, CANTEENS AND RESTAURANT KITCHENS.

Twenty-six inspections were made during the year, and generally the premises were found to be satisfactory.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

Every opportunity is taken to sustain the campaign by speaking to various societies. A series of illustrated talks were given by the Chief Sanitary Inspector in one of two Secondary Modern Schools, and these were well received.

FOOD POISONING.

One isolated case of Food Poisoning was notified during the year. This was of a very mild nature, and the agent was unknown.

MEAT INSPECTION.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR:

The Abattoir has been used by the Ministry of Food as a slaughtering centre for Colne, Nelson, Barrowford, Trawden and Foulridge since January, 1940, and for Bacup and Rawtenstall since May, 1953. Since the improvements took place and the new equipment came into full use in February, 1952, slaughtering has taken place under the most hygienic conditions. Meat rationing ended on July 3rd, and the Ministry of Food ceased their occupation of the Abattoir.

The Abattoir was then let to the North East Lancashire Meat Wholesalers Ltd., a company formed by local butchers, who slaughter and supply fresh meat to this and neighbouring districts.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES:

Two private slaughterhouses were granted licences for 12 months from the date of decontrol, these being in respect of the Co-operative Slaughterhouse, Stanley Street, and James Pickles and Sons, rear 5 Market Street. Applications in respect of two other private slaughterhouses in the borough were refused, the premises being entirely unsuitable to conform with modern standards.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED.

	Public Abattoir	Private Slaughterhouses		Totals
		Stanley St.	Rear 5 Market St.	
Cows	1,826	—	18	1,844
Cattle other than cows	1,648	456	226	2,330
Sheep and Lambs...	17,333	2,648	1,550	21,531
Pigs	4,732	987	26	5,745
Calves	1,057	2	8	1,067
Totals	26,596	4,093	1,828	32,517

All these were inspected excepting 2 pigs at the Public Abattoir and 10 sheep at Stanley Street.

In addition, 2 cottagers' pigs were slaughtered on farm premises, one of which was inspected.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED WITHIN THE DISTRICT.

	Cattle ex- cluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,330	1,844	1,067	21,531	5,747
Number inspected	2,330	1,844	1,067	21,521	5,744
All diseases except Tuberculosis— Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	6	19	42	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	183	524	Nil	1,286	172
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	7.9	28.7	1.8	6.2	3.1
Tuberculosis only— Whole carcasses condemned	7	18	3	Nil	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	319	561	Nil	Nil	139
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	14	31.4	0.3	Nil	2.4

No. of carcasses found to be affected with cysticercus bovis 14

IMPORTED MEAT:

The following quantity of Imported Meat was distributed from the Abattoir during the year:—

Total nett weight 871 tons 18 cwts. 3 qtrs. 8 lbs.

MEAT AND FOOD CONDEMNED.

MEAT AND OFFAL:

From diseases other than 'Tuberculosis:

		Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.
Meat	....	2	16	0	27				
Offal	....	5	5	2	21				
		<hr/>				8	1	3	20

From 'Tuberculosis:

		Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.				
Meat	....	7	4	1	19				
Offal	....	10	2	2	11				
		<hr/>				17	7	0	2
Total	....	25	8	3	22	<hr/>			

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1938.

During the year, 3 cows were slaughtered under the provisions of the above Order, at the Public Abattoir. Inspection of the carcasses and organs was carried out in conjunction with the Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. In two instances the carcasses and all organs were condemned by reason of generalised tuberculosis, but in the remaining case the carcase was found to be fit for human consumption, although the organs were condemned.

CONGENITAL TUBERCULOSIS.

In all cases when this disease is discovered in calves, immediate notification is given to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. On 2 occasions during the year the dam has been traced and slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL.

Condemned meat and offal from the Public Abattoir and private slaughterhouses is disposed of through trade channels. It is collected twice weekly, and is used for the manufacture of tallow, grease, bone meal and fertilisers.

OTHER FOODS:—

A total of 166 certificates were issued to cover the following items of foodstuffs examined and rejected as unfit for human consumption.

			Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.
Tinned meats	....	....	3	3	0
„ vegetables	....	....	4	1	0
„ fruits	....	....	3	3	0
„ milk	....	....	1	0	17
Others	....	....		1	25
Total			13	1	14

These goods were taken to the Destructor Works, and burnt in the incinerator.

No special examinations of food stocks were undertaken during the year.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The Local Authority became a Food and Drugs Authority as from October 1st, 1939, and the following samples were purchased during 1954:—

FORMAL:—

Milk	...	....	....	....	33
*Milk "Appeal to Cow"	....	....	....	....	4
Beef Sausage	....	....	....	....	1
Salmon Paste	....	....	....	....	1
Sausage Meat	....	....	....	....	1

INFORMAL :

Beef Stew	14
Ice Cream	6
Milk	6
Iced Lollies	5
Apples	3
Butter	3
Coffee	3
Orange Juice	3
Salmon Paste	3
Sugar Confectionery	3
Beef Suet	2
Coffee Essence	2
Ground Almonds	2
Beef Paste	1
Lemon Cheese	1
Lemon Curd	1
Potted Turkey	1
Sausage Meat	1
Total	<hr/> 100 <hr/>

* " Appeal to Cow " samples are taken at the time of milking at farms from which milk has previously been sampled in course of delivery to the consumer and found below standard.

ADULTERATED SAMPLES

Article	Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration	Observations
Ice Cream	Informal	Deficient of non fatty milk solids. Required minimum 7.5% — only contained 6.5%	Maker cautioned. Further samples to be taken.
Salmon Paste	Informal	Deficient of Salmon.	Formal sample taken.
Salmon Paste	Formal	Contained an insignificant amount of Salmon. Salmon paste should contain 70% salmon.	Court Proceedings taken
Sausage Meat	Informal	Deficient of meat. Meat content = 45%. Should be defined either Beef or Pork. If Beef, should contain 50% meat. If Pork, should contain 65% meat.	Vendor cautioned.
Beef Stew	Informal	Deficient of meat. Meat content = 55% Added water = 44%)	Public Analyst states— “In my opinion beef stew should contain at least 65% meat and not more than 30% added water.” Vendor cautioned. — do —
Beef Stew	Informal	Deficient of meat. Meat content = 63% Added water = 36%)	

Of the samples taken, 6% were found to be adulterated.

Four milk samples taken from one milk producer revealed fat deficiency, which was confirmed by the resultant “Appeal to Cow” samples. The producer was advised to seek guidance on the feeding of his cows or other reasons for poor quality. A milk sample taken from another producer again revealed a fat deficiency, which the resultant “Appeal to Cow” sample confirmed as milk of naturally poor quality.

PROCEEDINGS INSTITUTED UNDER FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Article	Default or Offence	Result	Fines	Costs
Salmon Paste	Contained an insignificant amount of salmon.	Conviction against manufacturer. Case against vendor dismissed.	£1	inclusive.

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